

Future Population

Population projections for a town the size of Stantonsburg could only be rough guesses at best. Stantonsburg's future population could be affected considerably by new economic changes in the surrounding area. As long as the larger cities in the surrounding area continue to grow, Stantonsburg's population should also increase, but to what extent is not known.

As a result of the survey of housing conducted in 1964, it was estimated that approximately 960 people lived in Stantonsburg in 1964*. This represents a 7.0% increase from 1960 to 1964. If the population of the Town increases in future years at the same rate as it has in this 4 year period, the Town would, roughly, have a population of 1,050 by 1970 and 1,210 by 1980.

Stantonsburg's Growth Compared with Other Areas

Other small towns in the surrounding area have also gained population during the period from 1950 to 1960 as shown on the graph on the opposite page. This increase varies from 7.9% in the case of Walstonburg to 28.1% for Eureka. This phenomena reflects, in general, the migration of farm workers into urban areas seeking other forms of employment. Whether such a significant population increase in these towns is forthcoming in the period from 1960 to 1970 is doubtful. It is not inconceivable that these in-migrants will become disenchanted with present employment opportunities in these towns and move elsewhere where the opportunity for work is more favorable.

The population of Stantonsburg Township** has since 1940 been gradually decreasing. From 1950 to 1960 this decrease was 5.4%. Similarly, five surrounding Townships have experienced, on the average, a decrease of 8.6% of their population during this 10 year period. This trend is likely to continue in the future as jobs in agriculture become more scarce.

* This 1964 population estimate was derived by multiplying the average household size for non-whites (4.98) by the total of dwellings in Town occupied by non-whites. This total was then added to the total of whites living in Town which was derived by the same method. These projections could be affected considerably by changes in the economy of the area such as a new factory coming into Town, Township, etc.

**The population of the Town of Stantonsburg is included in these figures.